MULTI AWARD WINNING!

SCIENCE + ANIMALS + PUZZLES + PEOPLE + ARTS + PHOTOS + BOOKS + SPORTS + WIENERMOBILES

THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

SPORTS
Coco Gauff wins major tennis title
p18

BOOKS
Read our Q&A with Grace Lin!
p23

2025 Summer of Reading

HOW TO
Decorate fun bug cookies
p25

June 20, 2025 • Vol. 6, Issue 270 • $5.99

Making sense of the world

THE WEEK Junior

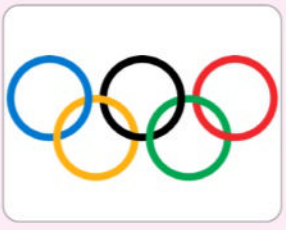
THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

ON THE TRAIL OF T. REX

New study offers clues to where the mighty dino's ancestors originally roamed p14

DID YOU KNOW?
In 2024, the US population grew by 3.3 million people, including 2.8 million people who came from other countries.

Athletes will be allowed



The travel ban has exemptions for athletes competing in two major international sporting events to be held in the US: the FIFA World Cup in 2026 and the Los Angeles Summer Olympics in 2028. Organizers of the events said they are confident that athletes from affected countries will not be blocked from coming to the US.

US government issues travel ban

A travel ban barring or restricting citizens of 19 countries from entering the US went into effect on June 9. The policy is part of President Donald Trump's efforts to reduce immigration into the US.

What is the ban?

Citizens of 12 countries, mostly in Africa and the Middle East, are no longer allowed to travel to the US. They are Afghanistan, Burma, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen. The ban also restricted access to the US from seven other nations. People from Burundi, Cuba, Laos, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkmenistan, and Venezuela cannot enter the US permanently or get tourist or student visas (government permission to enter another country). The ban does not apply to people with visas who are already in the US. It also excludes people from Afghanistan who are eligible for a special program created for those who worked for the US government during a war in their country. Other people exempted from the policy include people from those countries who also have US citizenship and athletes or coaches traveling for major sporting events (see box above).

Donald Trump

Why was the ban enacted?

Trump said the ban is meant to prevent people who have "hostile attitudes" toward the US from coming into the country. He said the 12 banned nations have "a large-scale presence of terrorists" (people who use violence to achieve political goals) and lack security processes to verify travelers' identities before they leave their home country. The White House also said people from these nations who have been given permission to enter the US temporarily often illegally stay after their visas expire. Some of the countries on the list were also included in a similar ban implemented by Trump during his first term in office, from 2017 to 2021. That policy was blocked by judges twice. The US Supreme Court (highest court of law) upheld a third version in 2018. It was in place until President Joe Biden ended it when he took office in 2021.

How did people react?

Political and immigration experts pointed out inconsistencies in the new policies. For example, Trump said the ban was instituted partly in response to a recent attack in Colorado, when a man from Egypt who had overstayed his visa wounded eight people. However, Egypt is not on the list of banned or restricted countries. US elected officials also raised concerns about the new rules. Pramila Jayapal, a member of Congress (branch of government that makes laws), said the policy "not only flies in the face of what our country is supposed to stand for—it will be harmful to our economy and our communities that rely on the contributions of people who come to America from this wide range of countries." Abby Maxman, president of Oxfam America, a nonprofit aid organization, said, "This policy is not about national security—it is about sowing division and vilifying communities that are seeking safety and opportunity." The Republic of the Congo said it will work with the US to find a solution to what it called a "misunderstanding." Officials in Chad responded by suspending the visas of US citizens trying to enter their country.

What will happen next?

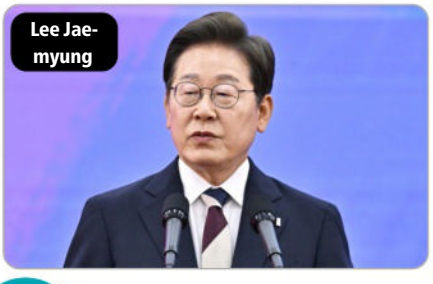
People in the affected countries will be denied visas to come to the US unless they meet the criteria for an exception. The ban will also be enforced at airports, which will prevent people from boarding flights to the US, and by government agents at border crossings where people can enter the US. Legal experts said that although challenges to the ban are expected, the new policies were designed to avoid the roadblocks encountered in Trump's first term.

New president in South Korea

After months of political turmoil, voters in South Korea elected Lee Jae-myung as president on June 3. Lee won more than 49% of the vote in a special election to replace the previous leader, who was impeached (removed from office) in April. Supporters said Lee, who began a five-year term on June 4, will bring stability to the nation.

In December, former president Yoon Suk Yeol claimed that the country was under threat and instituted martial law (when the military takes control). It was discovered, however, that he was trying to protect his own political career. He was removed from office, and three temporary presidents led the nation until the election.

Lee has faced legal issues, such as accusations of corruption (using power for personal gain), but has denied all charges. He was a lawyer and served as mayor of Seongnam city and governor of Gyeonggi Province. Lee has pledged to create jobs, improve the economy, and unite the country. "I will do my utmost to fulfill the great responsibility and mission entrusted to me," he said.

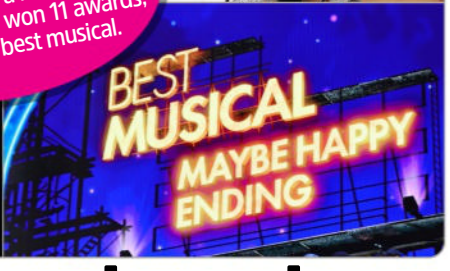

Lee Jae-myung

Cynthia Erivo

Darren Criss (left) and Nicole Scherzinger

MAKING HISTORY
In 2016, Hamilton was nominated for a record-setting 16 Tonys and won 11 awards, including best musical.

Lin-Manuel Miranda (left) and Leslie Odom Jr.



Big night for Broadway shows

The most prestigious prizes in Broadway theater were presented at the 78th annual Tony Awards on June 8. The televised event was held at Radio City Music Hall in New York City and was hosted by *Wicked* film star and previous Tony winner Cynthia Erivo. The Tonys are voted on by more than 800 industry professionals and critics.

The night's biggest winner was *Maybe Happy Ending*, a futuristic musical about two outdated robots in Seoul, South Korea, who unexpectedly fall in love. The show won six awards, including best musical, best director, and best actor for star Darren Criss. It was the first Tony award for Criss, who was the first Asian American performer to win in that category. The show, which debuted in South Korea in 2016, also made history as the first production from that country to win a Tony award.

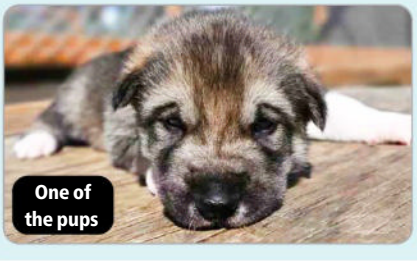
Among other highlights from the Tonys was a reunion and performance by the original cast of *Hamilton* to celebrate the hit musical's 10th anniversary. All 28 original cast members—including the show's creator, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and stars Leslie Odom Jr. and Phillipa Soo—performed a mix of songs from the show.

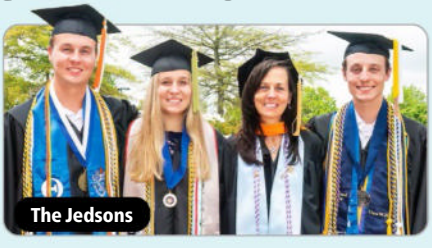
Other notable winners included Nicole Scherzinger, who earned best actress in a musical for her lead role in *Sunset Boulevard*. Francis Jue received the award for best featured actor in a play for *Yellow Face*, which explores Asian American history. In his speech, Jue thanked Asian artists who came before him and offered inspiration to those facing challenges today. "I hope that encourages you to be brave, to dream, and to dream big," Jue said.

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

PUPPY LOVE

A pack of sled dog pups is frolicking, cuddling, and snoozing on a puppy cam at Denali National Park in Alaska. The fluffy dogs are part of an important cultural tradition and, when they grow up, will help park rangers.


One of the pups


The Jedsons

FAMILY FESTIVITIES

It was a whirlwind commencement weekend for the Jedson family when mom Allison, her twin sons Ethan and Alex, and her daughter Emily all graduated from the University of Rhode Island. It was a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to graduate with our mom," Ethan said.

A TIMELESS TUNE

A catchy song called "Pretty Little Baby" has gone viral after popping up in millions of TikTok videos—but it's not the work of a young pop singer or up-and-coming artist. The tune was recorded in 1961 by Connie Francis, a superstar who had 15 songs reach the top 10. "My thanks to TikTok and its members for the wonderful, and oh so unexpected, reception," said Francis, now age 87.

A 1960s record

ON THE COVER: GETTY IMAGES (3); DISNEY/PIXAR; ERICA CLARK FOR STONE KITCHEN CREATIVE; ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (5); NPS; MICHAEL DERR; TIKTOK; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); OLYMPIC GAMES

COMMUNITY REMEMBRANCE PROJECT
Tulsa
THE 1921 TULSA MASSACRE
On May 31 to June 1, 1921, a white mob attacked the prosperous Black neighborhood of Greenwood in Tulsa, resulting in the deaths of at least 36 Black Tulsans, the destruction of 36 city blocks, and the displacement of over 10,000 Black people. On May 31, Dick Rowland, a 19-year-old Black teenager, was jailed after being accused of assaulting a white woman. Although the charges were dropped, the local Tulsa
newspaper published an inflammatory story that mobilized a white
lynch Rowland. In response, members of the Black community
courthouse to protect him. Reports indicate
mob of

DID YOU KNOW?
Tulsa is the second-largest city in Oklahoma after Oklahoma City and has more than 410,000 residents.

A historical marker in front of a church in Greenwood

Who is Monroe Nichols?

Monroe Nichols (above), age 41, is the first Black mayor of Tulsa. Before his election in 2024, he was the first Black person elected to represent the 72nd District in Oklahoma's House of Representatives and served four terms. Born in Texas, he earned degrees from the University of Tulsa and University of Oklahoma.

Plan to address historic wrong

The city of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has announced a plan to address one of the worst acts of racial violence in US history, which took place in 1921.

What happened in 1921?

The Tulsa neighborhood of Greenwood—known as Black Wall Street because it was a thriving area where Black people lived and worked—was devastated in an attack known as the Tulsa Race Massacre. (A massacre is the intentional killing of many people.) On May 30, a Black teenager from Greenwood was arrested for a crime he did not commit in downtown Tulsa. The next night, hundreds of white men attacked Greenwood, killing as many as 300 people and burning more than 1,200 houses, businesses, schools, and churches. No one was ever held responsible.

What happened this week?

The city held its first official Tulsa Race Massacre Observance Day on June 1. As part of the observance, the mayor of Tulsa (see box above) announced a plan to spend $105 million on reparations (financial payments to make up for wrongdoing) for the attacks. Tulsa will create the Greenwood Trust as part of a multi-step plan called the Road to Repair. The money will be used in a variety of ways to improve the area, such as building affordable housing, funding cultural preservation projects, and providing grants to small-business owners.

How did people react to the plan?

Residents of Tulsa called the new plan a historic moment that will have a significant impact on the community. Tulsa is "not just acknowledging past harm but taking real steps toward repair," said Kristi Williams, a justice activist and descendant of survivors of the massacre. Others are glad that the funding will bring much-needed investment to Greenwood by creating jobs and cleaning up parts of the town.

What will happen next?

The money will be raised through private contributions, property transfers, and possibly government funding. The goal is to secure $105 million by the 105th anniversary of the massacre in 2026. The plan does not include direct cash payments to the last two known living survivors of the attack, who are 110 and 111 years old, but such payments could be considered in the future.

WORD OF THE WEEK

PUPPY

The word "puppy" comes from the same family as "poppet," an affectionate form of address, and "puppet," a toy. They are based on the French poupée**, meaning a cherished "doll" or "plaything." The word was originally used to describe small dogs kept as pets. As the word evolved, it took on a more specific meaning of a dog that is less than a year old.**

THE WEEK IN HISTORY

June 15, 1864
National cemetery is established

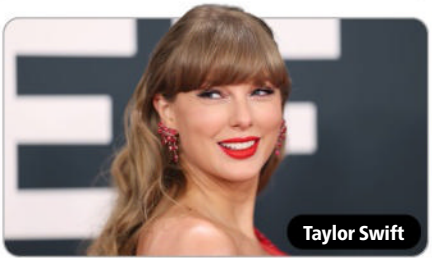
On June 15, 1864, a national cemetery was established in Arlington, Virginia. It began as a cemetery of 200 acres for burying soldiers who died serving in the Civil War (1861–1865). Today, Arlington National Cemetery has grown to 639 acres. More than 400,000 people are buried there, including people who have served in the military, US Presidents, Supreme Court justices, and astronauts.

Arlington National Cemetery

A Colorado hookless cactus

Strong recovery for plant species

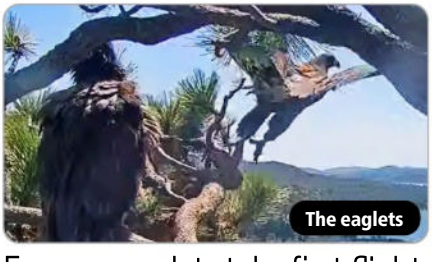
The Colorado hookless cactus, a small, barrel-shaped cactus with pink flowers, has been taken off the nation's endangered species list after being considered a federally threatened species for nearly 50 years. The US Fish & Wildlife Service said the plant is recovering because threats to its habitat have been reduced. The agency will continue to monitor the plant to ensure that its growth remains stable.



Taylor Swift

Taylor Swift buys back her music

Pop superstar Taylor Swift said she has purchased the master recordings of her earlier music from an investment firm that had owned the rights since 2020. In addition to the recordings, Swift now owns all her music videos, concert films, and album art. "All of the music I've ever made now belongs to me," she said. Experts said the purchase could have cost Swift about $360 million.



The eaglets

Famous eaglets take first flight

Sunny and Gizmo, the two eaglets born in March to mates Jackie and Shadow in Big Bear, California, have taken flight. After testing their wings for several weeks, Sunny left the nest on June 2, followed by Gizmo on June 7. It is unclear whether the siblings, who were observed separately in nearby trees, will return to the nest. A nest camera is operating at friendsofbigbearvalley.org.

Players from each of the AUSL's four teams

MAJOR MOMENT
Bandits player Morgan Zerkle recorded the first hit in AUSL history on June 7.

Pro softball league makes debut in US

The Athletes Unlimited Softball League (AUSL), a new professional sports league, has begun its first season. On June 7, two games were played in front of sold-out crowds.

The AUSL was founded by Athletes Unlimited, an organization that operates multiple pro women's sports competitions in volleyball, basketball, and other sports. It is also supported by Major League Baseball (MLB), which will televise and stream some of the AUSL games on their platforms. Former MLB executive Kim Ng is the commissioner (top leader) of the softball league.

The are four teams in the AUSL: the Bandits, the Blaze, the Talons, and the Volts. They each have 15 players, many of whom were college stars. To bring attention to the league, the teams are playing the season's 24 games in 10 different US cities. For the 2026 season, the teams intend to play in their home cities.

In the first-ever AUSL game on June 7, the Bandits defeated the Talons 3–1 in Rosemont, Illinois. Erin Coffel batted in two runs in the third inning. Later that day, the Volts beat the Blaze 5–1 in a game played in Wichita, Kansas. McKenzie Clark hit a three-run homer for the Volts. The Volts also won on June 8, giving them a league-leading 2–1 record when *The Week Junior* went to press. A best-of-three-games championship series between the top two teams will be played in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, starting on July 26.

The Athletes Unlimited Softball League's logo

The league hopes to build off the rise in popularity of women's sports. The Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) is experiencing a surge in attendance and viewership, for example, and last year's Women's College World Series softball championship finals between Oklahoma and Texas set a record for the most-watched title series, averaging 2 million viewers.

At the Volts' first game, general manager Cat Osterman told the crowd, "Today is the first day of something very incredible...something a lot of us... have been fighting for for a long time."

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Flight delayed because two pigeons sneaked aboard a plane" ***AP News***

AUSL (2); CREED CLAYTON/USFWS; GETTY IMAGES (2); FRIENDS OF BIG BEAR VALLEY; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); AP

Around the world

Carrying the statue

Paris, France
Activists steal statue of president

Activists from an organization called Greenpeace recently stole a statue of French president Emmanuel Macron from the Grévin wax museum and used it for a protest. They put the statue outside the Russian embassy (nation's official headquarters in another country). They were protesting against France's decision to continue buying gas and other energy supplies that pollute the environment from Russia after its invasion of Ukraine.

The city of Cologne

Cologne, Germany
Experts defuse bombs

Bomb squad technicians in Cologne deactivated three large unexploded bombs that had been dropped in World War II (1939–1945). The experts discovered the bombs in a shipyard on June 2. For safety, authorities evacuated 20,000 people from the area—including homes, hotels, schools, shops, a hospital, and a train station—before defusing the bombs on June 4. City officials said it was Cologne's largest operation since the war.

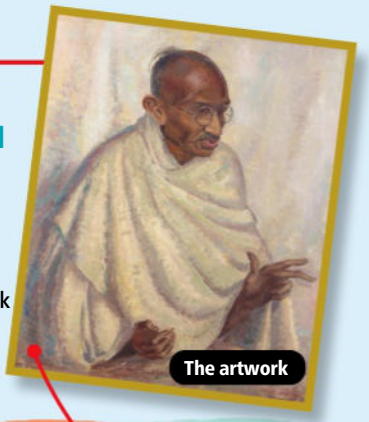
A tea farm

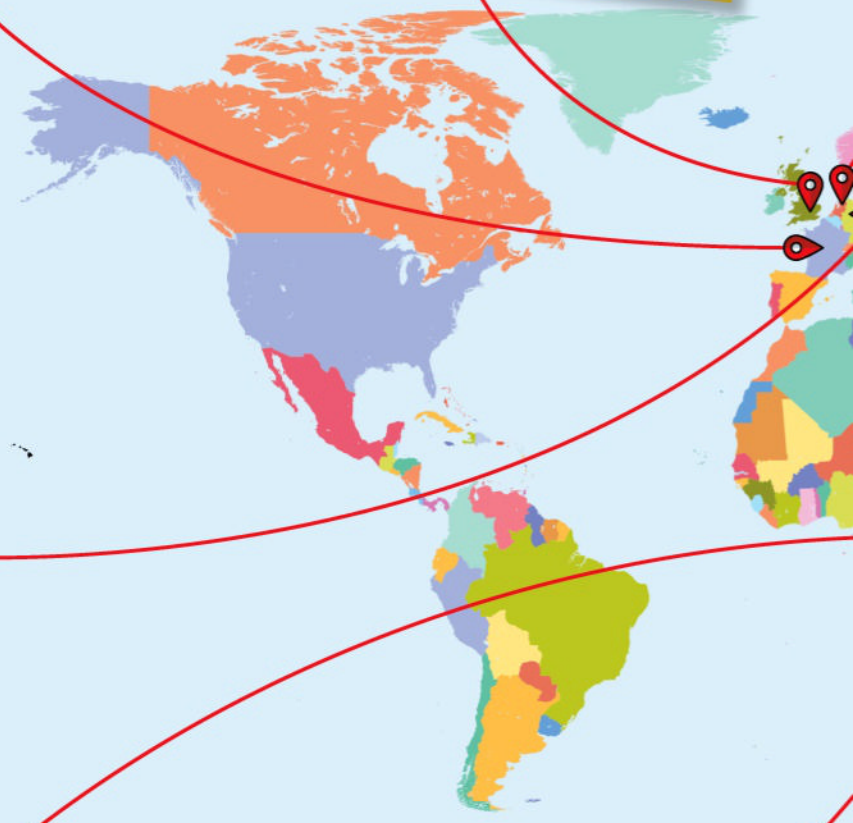
Kenya
Tea factories cut ties with global group

The Kenyan government has told tea factories to stop working with the Rainforest Alliance, an organization that promotes sustainability in farming. Officials said having products certified by the alliance is not worth the cost to tea producers, who have to pay for training and paperwork, when many small, family-run farms and factories already struggle to make ends meet.

London, United Kingdom
Rare portrait to be auctioned

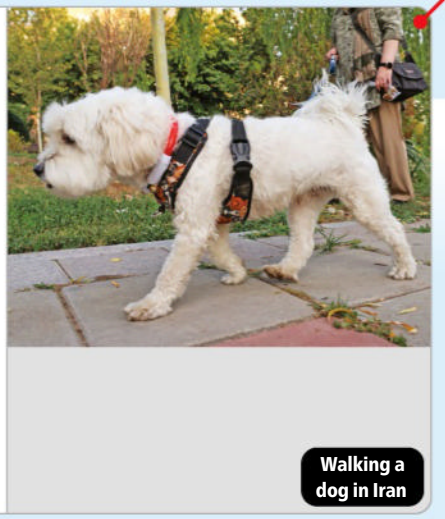
An oil portrait of Mahatma Gandhi (1869–1948), a leader of the Indian independence movement, is set to be auctioned in London in July. Gandhi famously led peaceful protests against British rule over India, which ended in 1947. This 1931 artwork by artist Clare Leighton is the only known portrait Gandhi posed for. It could sell for up to $95,000.


The artwork



Iran
Ban on dog walking

Officials in Iran have expanded a ban on walking dogs in public to at least 18 cities. The law also bans driving with the animals. Government leaders think dog ownership goes against Islam, the country's main religion, which considers dogs unclean. But pet ownership is on the rise in Iran, especially among young people looking for a way to rebel against the government. Some owners now walk their dogs at night to avoid being arrested.


Walking a dog in Iran

GETTY IMAGES (9); BONHAMS

Geert Wilders

The Hague, the Netherlands
Government collapses

The Dutch government has collapsed after Geert Wilders, leader of the Party for Freedom, pulled out of the ruling coalition (group of political parties working together). Wilders disagreed with Dick Schoof, the prime minister, over policies relating to immigration. Schoof will step down, and the Dutch will vote for a new prime minister on October 29.

A Vietnamese family

Hanoi, Vietnam
Officials change law on family size

Vietnam has scrapped a law that limited couples to having a maximum of two children. The two-child policy was introduced in 1988 in an attempt to ensure that there were enough resources, such as food, for everyone. Vietnam's birth rate has fallen, however, and the proportion of people over 65 is rising faster than other age groups. Now that the law has changed, families can have as many children as they want.

A humpback near Sydney

Sydney, Australia
Traffic on the "humpback highway"

Thousands of humpback whales are swimming from Antarctica to the warmer waters of Australia, where they breed. Each year the whales travel several thousand miles from their feeding grounds. People gather on Australia's coast, known as the "humpback highway," to watch for them from mid-June to early July. Scientist Vanessa Pirotta told The Guardian newspaper, "You don't need a boat to see a whale."

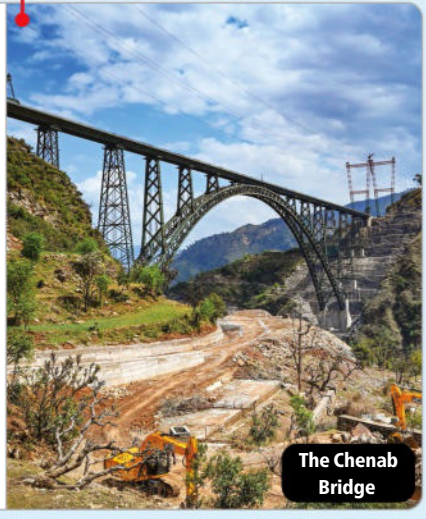
A traditional haka dance

Wellington, New Zealand
Lawmakers are suspended

On June 5, three members of New Zealand's parliament (similar to Congress) were suspended for performing a haka there last year. The haka is a traditional dance performed by New Zealand's Māori people. The lawmakers danced to protest against a proposed law that they feared would harm Māori people. Some people said the haka intimidated other members.

Kashmir, India
Record-breaking railway bridge opens

The world's highest railway bridge with a single arch has officially opened. At 1,178 feet in height, the Chenab Bridge is taller than the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Straddling the Chenab River, it connects the region of Kashmir with the rest of India. On June 6, after more than 20 years of construction, two passenger trains decorated with flowers used the bridge for the first time.


The Chenab Bridge

Should we keep rebuilding beaches?

Beach restoration has been going on for decades, and some say it's time to stop.

What you need to know

- **Beaches get destroyed by erosion (gradual wearing away due to natural forces), flooding, or major storms like hurricanes.**
- **Rebuilding beaches means taking sand from one place and putting it on a beach that has been damaged.**
- **In 1956, the US government established a federal program to rebuild damaged beaches.**
- **The US Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for rebuilding beaches.**

SANDY SHORES
Grains of sand are made when wind and waves break down rocks and other materials into tiny pieces.

Beaches are more than just a great place to spend a sunny summer day—they're also vital to the communities and ecosystems (groups of plants and animals that affect one another) around them. In the past few decades, federal, state, and local governments have spent billions of dollars on beach restoration projects on coastlines across the country, some of which have gone on for decades. In many places they have even widened the beaches. But the process has critics, too. They argue that rebuilding beaches is costly, harmful for the environment, and ineffective. What do you think? Should we keep rebuilding beaches?

Yes—they're too important to lose

Beaches protect land and people. They absorb waves and block water from rising oceans, which helps keep coastal areas from flooding. Beaches are also important habitats for many species of plants and animals. Seals and sea lions slumber on the sand while sea turtles, crabs, and birds waddle, scuttle, or fly by. And beaches are a way of life for seaside communities, where locals live steps from the water and hit the beach to swim, surf, and relax. Beaches also attract visitors from farther away. Tourism is big business and provides a livelihood for restaurants, shops, and residents. If beaches aren't protected, all that goes away.

No—it's simply not worth it

Rebuilding beaches costs the government a lot of money. The Army Corps of Engineers spends between $100 and $150 million a year on beach restoration. That money comes from taxpayers and could be used to fund other services or projects. Rebuilding beaches may also be bad for the environment because it requires taking sand from other places, like barrier islands. When sand is removed, those islands become more vulnerable to rising sea levels. And ultimately, rebuilding beaches is just a temporary fix. The same natural causes that destroyed them in the first place, like erosion or major storms, will occur again.

YES Three reasons we should keep rebuilding beaches

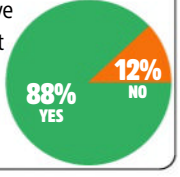
1. **Beaches help protect coastlines and inland areas—and the people who live there—from flooding and damage.**
2. **They also provide habitat, resting places, and food for many plants and animals.**
3. **Beaches are vital to the health, happiness, and livelihoods of local communities and residents.**

NO Three reasons we should not keep rebuilding beaches

1. **Beach restoration costs hundreds of millions of dollars that could be put to better use elsewhere.**
2. **The process of restoring beaches can damage other habitats that are intact.**
3. **It's not a permanent fix, and beaches that need rebuilding will only need more help in the future.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked you if it's better to read before bed. Your votes showed that most of you like to dive into a book at night as you wind down for the day.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think we should keep rebuilding beaches or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

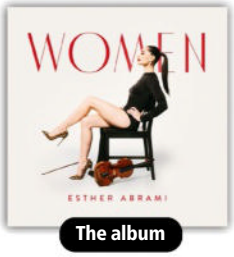
GETTY IMAGES

Honoring women in music

Esther Abrami's new album highlights classical female composers.

Violinist Esther Abrami is a rising star in classical music who has performed at some of the world's top concert halls. Her new album, *Women*, celebrates the often-overlooked contributions of female composers by featuring only their works.

Growing up in southern France, Abrami started playing violin at age 3 on her grandmother's instrument. She went on to study at the Royal College of Music in London, England, where she signed a rare record deal with Sony before graduating. She has since toured across Europe and China, and today she has more than a million followers on social media.



The album

A few years into her career, Abrami made a surprising discovery. "I'd learned hundreds of pieces," she told NPR, "but not a single one had been written by a woman." This led her on a journey to uncover classical music by women. "It felt like opening the door to a hidden treasure," she said.

Women, Abrami's third studio album, features 16 tracks. It includes 20th-century figures like Brazilian pianist Chiquinha Gonzaga and Irish composer Ina Boyle. One track is by Ilse Weber, a Jewish nurse who wrote lullabies for children while imprisoned during the Holocaust (1933–1945). The album also includes modern pieces, like an orchestral version of Miley Cyrus' 2023 song "Flowers" and an original by Abrami about her grandmother's violin.

Abrami is determined to ensure that future generations learn about women's contributions to music. "I see the impact," she said. At her concerts, she has met girls inspired by her videos to learn the violin. "They are coming to me saying, 'I played a piece composed by a woman,'" she said.

Esther Abrami

DID YOU KNOW?
The earliest known female composer was Kassia—a Greek nun and poet who lived from about 810 to 867—whose music is still played today.

Flipping for a cause

American gymnast Frederick Richard recently set the world record for the most backflips in 24 hours, completing 1,111. Known as "Frederick Flips" online, Richard helped the US men's gymnastics team win a bronze medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics. He live-streamed his record-breaking flip event to raise $100,000 to support gymnastics programs for children in Africa. With the high costs of equipment and training limiting access to gymnastics, Richard said his goal is to give kids the "resources to do sports that they love."

Frederick Richard

Warren Buffett

Business leader retires

Famous investor and billionaire Warren Buffett announced that he will step down as CEO of his company, Berkshire Hathaway, at the end of 2025, after leading it for 60 years. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, Buffett turned a struggling textile company into one of the world's most valuable firms. Today, Berkshire Hathaway invests in many companies, from GEICO insurance to Dairy Queen, and has seen its stock rise more than 5,500,000% under Buffett's leadership. At age 94, he said he is retiring to focus on his health but will remain head of the board and play a role in key decisions.

OVERHEARD

"A real power to poetry is that it can often only take two minutes to read it, and yet it can transform that moment."

Ada Limón, who has concluded her final term as the US poet laureate, marking the end of her historic three-year appointment

GETTY IMAGES (4); SONY CLASSICAL RECORDS

CLEANER POWER
In 2024, more than 40% of the world's electricity was generated without fossil fuels (coal, oil, and gas).

A protected forest on La Palma

Finding reasons to hope

Marine biologist Nancy Knowlton focuses her work on protecting coral reefs from rising ocean temperatures. Once nicknamed "Dr. Doom" for her lectures about threats to reefs, she later started a series of events highlighting conservation successes to inspire other scientists to help the ocean.

Nancy Knowlton

Efforts to protect nature are working

A scientist best known for her warnings about climate change has had a change of heart. Coral reef biologist Nancy Knowlton (see box above) spoke at the Starmus science festival in Spain's Canary Islands and revealed 10 reasons to be hopeful about environmental progress around the world.

One of these "bright spots" is the increase in legally protected areas worldwide, Knowlton said, which are now at a record high. More than 17% of land and inland waters, as well as more than 8% of the planet's ocean and coastal areas, are now protected. On La Palma, the island where the Starmus festival was held, one third of the land is protected. This helps nature and reduces the use of artificial lights, keeping the skies dark so scientists can better observe the stars.

A Eurasian beaver

Scientists are also successfully slowing down or reversing the decline of many animal species. The populations of some species, including lions in Africa and gray seals, European bison, and gray wolves in Europe, have grown in recent years. The Eurasian beaver has had the strongest comeback—its numbers have grown from 1,200 to 1.2 million in the past century. In the US, Knowlton said bison, bald eagles, and turkeys "are all in much better condition than a century ago." There has also been success in removing some invasive species, which are non-native species that cause harm after they are introduced to an area.

Knowlton said the fight against air pollution is also showing positive results in many places. For example, a report from last year found that air quality in London, UK, improved dramatically from 2016 to 2024. The number of electric vehicles on the roads has also risen, with electric models making up more than 20% of the cars sold worldwide last year. In Norway, 93% of new cars are either electric or hybrid (powered by a combination of electricity and gas).

Some countries are making more efforts to reduce their waste as well. South Korea now recycles 98% of its food waste, and Kenya has banned the use of plastic bags. Knowlton said she wanted to "shine a spotlight on what's working" and that these examples are "the inspiration for where we need to be heading."

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Crater Lake National Park, Oregon

Located on top of a dormant volcano in Oregon, Crater Lake is the deepest lake in the US. It formed about 7,700 years ago when an eruption caused the volcano's peak to collapse. Two islands stand in the lake. One is Wizard Island, which is 763 feet tall and has a hiking trail to the top. Golden-mantled squirrels and American pikas live in surrounding forests, and peregrine falcons and Clark's nutcrackers nest there. Students visit the park on field trips, and it is a destination for scientific research as well. Visitors can take a boat cruise, camp in the park, or bike around the lake.

A golden-mantled squirrel

SO SLIMY Salamanders produce gooey mucus that covers their skin and gives it a shiny appearance.

A spotted salamander

A second chance for salamanders

An Alabama community has rallied to save a beloved population of spotted salamanders. Residents, environmentalists, and students in the city of Homewood, which hosts an annual salamander festival, worked together to prevent a college from building over the creature's habitat.

Spotted salamanders have inhabited the state's Shades Mountain for at least 60 years. Each spring, the amphibians cross a local road to reach the pools of water where they lay their eggs. But earlier this year, Samford University announced plans for new construction along the road, including sports fields that would intrude on these pools.

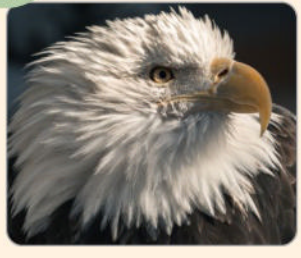
In response, dozens of Homewood residents sent letters to the city council. "This was the salamander's habitat first," 9-year-old Ruby Banta told Inside Climate News. Banta and her friends also held a yard sale in support of the salamanders. After hearing the community's concerns, Samford University changed its plan, moving the fields to a location outside the salamander habitat. Organizer Megan Gibbons called it a "win for the environment."

Animal of the week: Père David's deer

A Père David's deer has been born at the San Diego Zoo for the first time in 22 years. These deer, also known as milu, almost went extinct in the 19th century, but zoos saved and bred the survivors. Now 53 herds live in the wild.

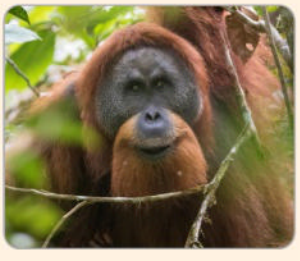
- **LIFE SPAN:** About 18 years
- **HABITAT:** Swamps and marshes in China
- **SIZE:** 290 to 440 pounds, up to 7.2 feet long
- **DIET:** Grass and other plants
- **FUN FACT:** Their hooves have webbed toes, making them great swimmers but slow runners.

Good week / Bad week



Bald eagles

The bald eagle population in Colorado has more than doubled in the past 10 years. Experts who have been studying the birds' recovery estimate that there are now more than 300 bald eagle nests across the state.



Tapanuli orangutans

A report has identified the 25 most endangered primates on Earth. One of the rarest is the Tapanuli orangutan. About 767 of these apes are left in Indonesia's Batang Toru forest, occupying 2.5% of their former range.

Ask an expert: "Why can't sharks stop swimming?" Cora, 9, Wisconsin

Catherine Macdonald
Shark research and conservation director, University of Miami

Some species of sharks breathe by moving water over their gills as they swim, so they never stop swimming. But some actually can stop! And when they do, they sink. Many species like to rest on the seafloor. They have muscles that move water over their gills while they sit still.

A great white shark

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com.
Learn about the Shark Research & Conservation Program at sharkresearch.earth.miami.edu.

GETTY IMAGES (3); SAN DIEGO ZOO; ALAMY; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4); SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE

The story behind an

The famous Goodyear Blimp is celebrating a century in the sky.

The curiously shaped, lighter-than-air vehicle turns 100 years old this year. Discover the story behind this engineering marvel.

The first blimp in 1925

How the blimp began

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, in Akron, Ohio, built airship parts as early as 1911, when the manufacturer found that the materials for its tires could also make a flexible airship. In 1925, Goodyear introduced its first blimp, named the Pilgrim. It was inflated with helium, which allowed it to float. Its control car, called a gondola, carried a pilot, passenger, and mechanic. Goodyear painted its name on the sides to advertise its brand and developed more blimps. The Enterprise, in 1934, featured a larger envelope (the balloon-like part) that became standard for later models.

A blimp flies over a WWII aircraft carrier.

The blimp's role during WWII

When the US entered World War II (1939–1945), blimps became a key part of the Navy's defense. Because they could stay airborne for long periods, they were ideal for slowly patrolling US coastlines to search for enemy submarines and U-boats. Blimps also escorted ships heading to war and were used in ocean search-and-rescue operations. Goodyear delivered 134 K-series blimps—the airships flown during the war—to the Navy.

The Goodyear Blimp Wingfoot One

SOARING SONG

In 1940, Goodyear added a record player, microphone, and loudspeaker to some of its newer blimps, and called it "blimpcasting."

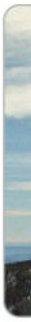
Blimps on film

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

The 1968 musical features a functioning British blimp built for the movie. It was based on a design from the early 1900s, notable for its wide middle shape and sharp, pointed ends.

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade

The 1989 movie takes place in 1938, when adventurer Indiana Jones hijacks a large white zeppelin (rigid airship) to escape danger. Unlike in the movie, German blimps were not equipped to carry airplanes.

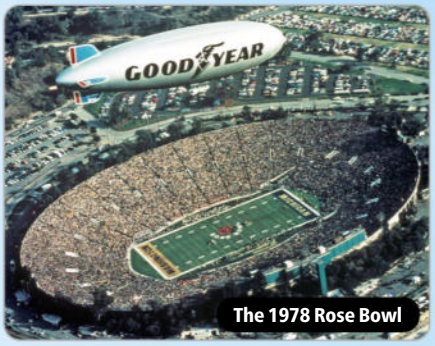


GETTY IMAGES (3); COURTESY OF GOODYEAR (2); ALAMY; PARAMOUNT PICTURES; DISNEY/PIXAR

iconic airship

WOW!
The Goodyear Pilgrim logged about 95,000 miles during its career between 1925 and 1931.

ECO-FRIENDLY
A blimp uses less fuel during a two-week trip than a 747 airplane uses to taxi the runway.



The 1978 Rose Bowl

Memorable moments

After the war, blimps returned to commercial uses, like advertising and public relations. In 1955, the Enterprise blimp recorded the Tournament of Roses Parade in California—the first time an aircraft provided live aerial video of a national TV event. In the 1960s, blimps were used to cover sports, including the first Super Bowl in 1967. The Europa followed in 1972 and was the first Goodyear Blimp to fly outside the US. Throughout the 1970s, blimps covered more than 275 televised events, such as the Daytona 500 and major college football games like the Rose Bowl. In the 1980s, blimps helped cover Major League Baseball's World Series and the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The Goodyear Blimp introduced high-definition technology to its live videos in the early 2000s. By the end of the 2010s, the company had unveiled six new airships.

Views from a modern blimp

The Goodyear Blimp at 100

Today, blimps still fly over major events, such as the NCAA basketball tournament, Professional Golf Association championships, and air shows. In 2025, to celebrate 100 years of continuous operation of its airship program, the Goodyear Blimp will make appearances in more than 100 cities across the US and Europe as part of a Centennial Tour. The US cities include Las Vegas, New Orleans, New York City, and Seattle. Blimps will also be making first-time appearances at music and cultural festivals, such as Bonnaroo in Manchester, Tennessee, and Lollapalooza in Chicago, Illinois.

Disney's *Cars* movies

A blimp named Al Oft (get it?) is a recurring character in Disney's *Cars* universe. He is employed by the fictional Piston Cup car racing series and he advertises for the Lightyear tire company, which is based on Goodyear.

A VERY BIG BITE
T. rex had a huge mouth filled with 50 to 60 massive teeth, each one as big as a banana.

An artist's rendering of Tyrannosaurus rex

Study traces origins of T. rex

Scientists know that the mighty Tyrannosaurus rex once roamed North America, but for many years they have debated where the legendary dinosaur species originally came from. A new study offers evidence that T. rex's ancestors started in Asia, then crossed a land bridge to North America more than 70 million years ago. Once there, they evolved (changed very slowly over millions of years) into the fearsome creatures they became.

T. rex lived between 67 and 66 million years ago, during the late Cretaceous period. The species weighed up to nine tons and measured up to 41 feet long. The majority of T. rex fossils have been found in what is now the northern US, including Montana and South Dakota, and in Canada.

The land bridge over the Bering Strait

For the study, an international team of scientists examined tyrannosaurids, a family of dinosaurs that includes T. rex, and megaraptors, another big dinosaur that is considered a cousin of the T. rex. Researchers used computer modeling to determine how the big creatures moved around the planet, using the location of fossil discoveries, knowledge of dinosaur evolution, and the climate of various locations.

The team determined that T. rex's ancestors relocated about 72 million years ago, when sea levels fell and created a land bridge in the Bering Sea. "Our modeling suggests the 'grandparents' of T. rex likely came to North America from Asia, crossing the Bering Strait between what is now Siberia and Alaska," said study author Cassius Morrison of University College London. The land bridge was swallowed back up by the ocean about 13,000 years ago.

The study also offered insight into how tyrannosaurids and megaraptors grew to be so massive. The two dinosaurs outgrew their ancestors about 92 million years ago, right after global temperatures rose and then fell. Researchers concluded that the species were better equipped to survive and thrive after the climate shift, while other dinosaurs died out because of it. This allowed T. rex and megaraptors to become top predators in the area.

The team believes more evidence of the T. rex family's journey will come to light in the future. "Dozens of T. rex fossils have been unearthed in North America," Morrison said. "But our findings indicate that the fossils of T. rex's direct ancestor may lie undiscovered still in Asia."

Soaring and stepping

Pterosaurs, a group of winged dinosaurs that includes pterodactyls, could walk as well as they could fly, a new study found. Researchers said that by the middle of the Jurassic Period (201 to 145 million years ago), the flying reptiles evolved to walk on four limbs, using their hands and feet (see illustration above).

Scientists examined the fossil record, created 3D models of pterosaur tracks, and matched previously unidentified tracks to specific types of pterosaurs. They determined that pterosaurs were often on the ground in coastal and inland regions, living alongside dinosaurs. "Footprints offer a unique opportunity to study pterosaurs in their natural environment," lead study author Robert Smyth, a researcher in the UK, said in a statement.

AI can determine patient's age and health

Experts have developed a program that uses artificial intelligence (AI, when a computer imitates human learning) to assess a patient's health by looking at a photograph of their face.

Every person has a chronological age based on their date of birth. But people also have what doctors call a biological age, which is based on their environment, lifestyle, family history, and health issues.

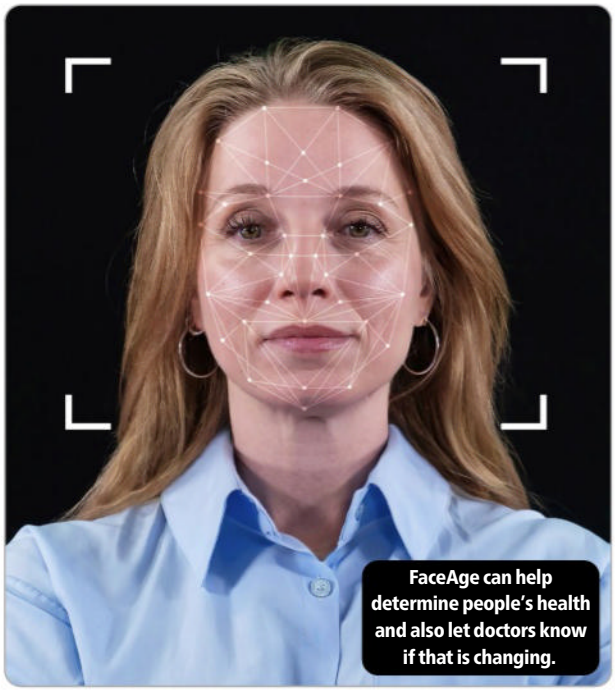
Doctors use biological age to predict a patient's health outcomes and set treatment plans for diseases such as cancer. For example, a patient with a low biological age could be given a stronger form of treatment than their chronological age alone would indicate.

Traditionally, doctors have figured out a patient's biological age by assessing how they look and move. This "eyeball test," however, isn't always accurate. FaceAge is meant to improve that accuracy by providing an AI-based biological age that doctors can combine with their own visual evaluation.

Scientists trained FaceAge by showing it more than 58,000 photos of healthy people and more than 6,000 photos of cancer patients whose chronological ages were known. The program found that cancer patients looked about five years older than their chronological age.

Doctors who used FaceAge better predicted cancer patients' biological age and treatment outcomes. FaceAge's creators said it is designed as a tool for doctors and is not to be used on its own.

TOP TIPS
To help people age well, doctors recommend physical activity, healthy food, and socializing with others.



FaceAge can help determine people's health and also let doctors know if that is changing.

People and their pups share a special bond.

Dogs are as important as friends

A new study has found some truth to the popular saying that "dogs are man's best friend."

Researchers in Hungary asked 717 dog owners to rate 13 different aspects of their relationship with their dogs, like satisfaction, reliability, and companionship.

They also asked participants to rate these same aspects in their relationships with the people in their lives, including their children, best friend, partner, and close relatives.

The owners rated their dogs higher than best friends and close relatives for affection, reliability, and support. And they gained greater satisfaction from their relationships with dogs than with other humans, except their children.

"Dogs play a unique role in our social lives," the researchers said. "They offer emotional closeness like children, low conflict like friends, and predictability derived from the structured, human-led relationship."

AMAZING INVENTION

A pen that lasts for 100 years

The Dragon Pearl

A refillable ballpoint pen is made of an ultra-strong metal called titanium and intended to last for 100 years and a million clicks. The Dragon Pearl is designed to withstand deep-sea water pressure, the extreme conditions of space, and being dipped in corrosive acid.

The pen is weighted toward the front for better balance that reduces hand fatigue, and its extra-long tip allows for smooth, precise writing and drawing. Users can choose different grips and tip types. The Dragon Pearl's creators said it will be available to purchase later this year.

GETTY IMAGES (2); TITANER; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES; RUDOLF HIMA

Photos of the week

2025 THE MILKY WAY PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

Glow in the dark
Sergio Montúfar captured this picture of a volcano erupting in Guatemala.

Sky light
A comet streaks through this shot photographed by Xingyang Cai in the US.

XINGYANG CAI; MAX INWOOD; SERGIO MONTÚFAR; ANGEL FUX; MAURICIO SALAZAR

Photos of the week

Wide world
This panoramic shot was taken in Switzerland by Angel Fux.

Natural beauty
This shot was taken by Mauricio Salazar in Argentina.

Colorful view
Max Inwood snapped this photo of the night sky and flowers in New Zealand.

SPECIAL SURFACE
Roland Garros stadium is known for its red clay courts, which are topped with brick dust.

Coco Gauff with her trophy

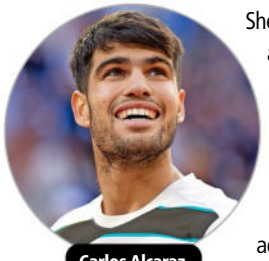
Named after him

The stadium where the French Open is played is named after French pilot Roland Garros (above). In 1913, he became the first person to fly across the Mediterranean Sea. He then became a hero in France for his efforts as a fighter pilot in World War 1 (1914-1918).

Coco Gauff is French Open champ

For the first time in 10 years, an American woman won the French Open, one of the four most important international tennis tournaments of the year, known as Grand Slams. In an exciting women's singles final at Roland Garros stadium in Paris on June 7, Coco Gauff, the number two player in the world, beat the number one player, Aryna Sabalenka from Belarus. Gauff now has two Grand Slam titles.

Before the final, Gauff and Sabalenka had faced off 10 times, with each woman winning five matches. Sabalenka had won three of their last four, however. Gauff won her first Grand Slam in 2023 by beating Sabalenka in the final of the US Open.


Carlos Alcaraz

In Paris, the final took place as wind gusts of up to 30 miles per hour blew through the court. Sabalenka dominated at the start and went up 4–1 in the first set, but Gauff battled back. She got the score to 6–6, which forced a tiebreak that Sabalenka won. Gauff kept calm and won the second set, 6–2, to force a deciding third set. At one point, the score was 3–3, but Gauff broke Sabalenka's serve to gain an advantage in the match. She eventually won the last set, 6–4. After receiving her trophy, Gauff high-fived the ball kids on the court and posed for a photo with them.

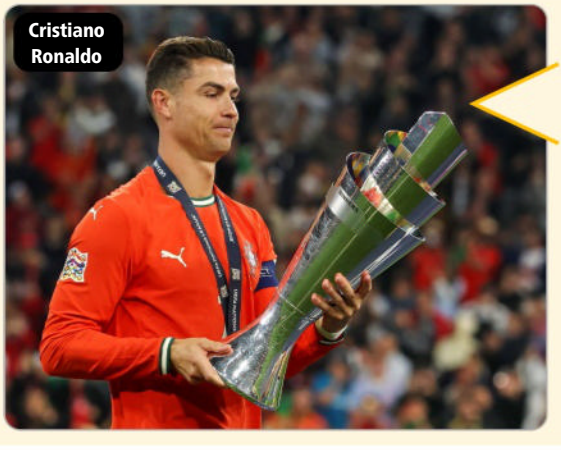
The next day, Carlos Alcaraz of Spain, the number two player in the world and the French Open's defending men's singles champion, won his fifth Grand Slam title by defeating Italy's Jannik Sinner, the world's top player. It was a thrilling five-set match that lasted 5 hours and 29 minutes, a record for the Paris event in the Open Era, which began in 1968.

Sinner entered the final having won every set he played at this year's French Open. He took the first two sets from Alcaraz and seemed to be on his way to another straight-set victory, but Alcaraz won the third set. Three times in the fourth set, Sinner was a point away from the championship, but Alcaraz saved each one and went on to win the set in a tiebreak. The deciding fifth set came down to another tiebreak, which Alcaraz won. In all, Sinner won 193 points and Alcaraz won 192, but Alcaraz won 30 games, while Sinner won 29.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

SWIMMING

Katie Ledecky, Bobby Finke, and Gretchen Walsh each won three events at the US Swimming Championships, which ended on June 7. In women's races, Ledecky won the 400-meter, 800-meter, and 1,500-meter freestyle events, while Walsh won the 50-meter freestyle and 50-meter and 100-meter butterfly. Finke won the men's 800-meter and 1,500-meter freestyle and the 400-meter individual medley.


Cristiano Ronaldo

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

On June 8, Portugal beat Spain on penalty kicks to win the UEFA Nations League, a competition for European national soccer teams. Portugal, whose roster included superstar Cristiano Ronaldo, is the first team to ever win two Nations League titles.

SAILING

Spain won the New York Sail Grand Prix on June 8. This is Spain's second straight Sail GP win this season, and they top the series leaderboard.

FAMOUS FIELD
Devon Park in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is known as the Softball Capital of the World.

The University of Texas softball team celebrates.

Texas softball wins first college title

From May 29 to June 6, the Women's College World Series (WCWS) was held at Devon Park in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The finals, which began on June 4, were a best-of-three-game series between the University of Texas and Texas Tech University. The teams split the first two games. Then, on June 6, Texas won the deciding game by a score of 10–4 to earn their first-ever softball national title.

The Division 1 softball championship tournament began in May with 64 teams. Texas was seeded (ranked) sixth, while Texas Tech was number 12. Eight teams made it to the WCWS, including the second-seeded University of Oklahoma, who were seeking their fifth straight championship. However, Texas Tech, who were playing in their first WCWS, beat them on June 2, knocking them out of the tournament. The same day, Texas beat the seventh-seeded University of Tennessee to advance to the championship series for the third time in four years.

In Game 1 of the finals, Texas pitcher Teagan Kavan led her team to a 2–1 win. She pitched all seven innings, allowing three hits and a walk. Texas Tech won Game 2 the next day, 4–3. In Game 3, Texas scored five runs in the first inning. They got one more in the third, then blew the game open in the fourth when Mia Scott hit a grand slam to extend her team's lead to 10–0.

Kavan, who pitched all of Game 3, was named Most Outstanding Player of the WCWS. She threw for 31.2 innings across six games without giving up a single earned run (a run scored against a pitcher not due to an error or other mishap).

COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Mike Dalianis**

Teams: **Spartans and Homers (baseball)**

"Our dad is a great coach, and he makes learning baseball fun. When our teammates listen to his advice, they get a lot better. He's kind and loves baseball, which makes us love it too. When kids strike out or make a mistake, he always makes them feel better and believe they will do better next time. He never gives up on us and makes us feel like we can win even if it's a hard game. We feel really lucky that he's our coach!" William, 9, and Ryan, 8, Virginia

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Ana Vergara

AGE: 23 SPORT: BEACH VOLLEYBALL TEAMS: TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY/ SPANISH NATIONAL TEAM

Smash hit When I was 8, I played volleyball at camp. Then, when my parents wanted me to do a sport after school, I joined an indoor volleyball club. I loved it. I kept playing and getting better. I started playing beach volleyball in the summers when the indoor season ended. At first, I didn't like it much—it was hard to move in the sand. I'm from Spain and joined the national team at 17.

Tricky sport You have to be very coordinated to play volleyball. It's easy to play for fun, but it's not easy to play pro because there are a lot of techniques. In beach volleyball, you have to do everything—bump, set, swing, serve—and it's just you and your partner.

Active life We travel around the country to play other teams. The season is short but intense. We play a lot of games, which makes us improve.

Staying strong If you're not in a good place mentally, you're not going to play your best. So if I'm struggling, I communicate with people I trust so I can let everything out and they can help me.

Full effort I hate losing, but if I give 100% and the other team is better, I'll feel good because giving 100% is the only thing I can control.

Big moment Our team won the NCAA title this year. We put in so much work during the past four years I've been in TCU, so it was very exciting.

Wise words Don't be scared to try sports. They're so fun, and you get to know a lot of people and make so many connections.

GETTY IMAGES; TCU (2); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); SAN DIEGO AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM ARCHIVE

DID YOU KNOW?
In 1974, scientists used a radio telescope to beam the first coded message into space.

Elio

An outer space adventure

In the new animated film *Elio*, a lonely boy's dream of being abducted by aliens comes true.

Disney and Pixar, the studios that created films such as *Inside Out 2*, *Turning Red*, and *Luca*, are bringing a new animated film to the big screen. *Elio* follows the misadventure of an alien-obsessed boy whose wish to leave Earth unexpectedly comes true. It arrives in theaters on June 20.

In the film, Elio (voiced by Yonas Kibreab) is an imaginative 11-year-old who feels like an outsider. He dreams of being abducted by aliens so he can live in a world where he is more accepted. After aliens hear a message he sends into space, he's beamed up to an interplanetary organization called the Communiverse. Among the aliens he meets is Glordon, the sweet son of a warlord, and the pair become friends. Domee Shi, who directed *Turning Red*, was one of *Elio*'s directors. She told *The Week Junior* that the film is a "funny, exciting adventure with a lot of heart and some surprises."

Yonas Kibreab

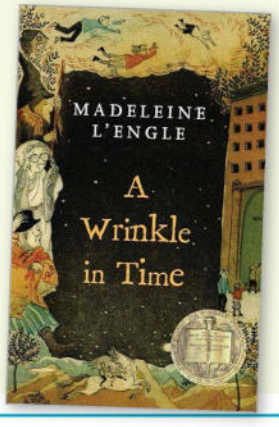
Elio was inspired by the childhood of Adrian Molina, who directed the film along with Shi and Madeline Sharafian. "He grew up on a military base as this artsy kid who felt very lonely," Sharafian told *The Week Junior*. Elements of the film were also influenced by classic sci-fi movies, including *E.T.*

To create the look of the Communiverse and its aliens, production designer Harley Jessup looked at the way ink pools and spreads in water, and he also studied images of cells, plants, and bacteria under a microscope. Glordon, for example, was based on a tardigrade, a microscopic aquatic animal with no eyes and stubby legs.

After Elio helps Glordon, it changes the way he thinks about himself and the world. One of the film's takeaways, Sharafian said, is the sense that "there is the possibility of connection everywhere."

Discover more kids in space

A Wrinkle in Time



Madeleine L'Engle's award-winning sci-fi novel follows 13-year-old Meg Murry on a journey to find her missing scientist father.

Over the Moon

This animated Netflix musical is about a Chinese girl who wants to prove that the mythical Moon Goddess exists, so she builds a rocket and flies into space to find her.

The Astronauts

In this TV drama, a group of five middle schoolers are accidentally launched into space. They have to figure out how to operate their spacecraft, work together, and survive challenges so they can make it back home.

FUN FACT
Chris Van Dusen illustrated a special Maine license plate with a lobster on it.

Upon That Isle in Maine: The Story & Works of Chris Van Dusen

Exhibition celebrates author

The Maine Maritime Museum in Bath, Maine, is honoring the career of a popular children's book author and illustrator who calls the state home. *Upon That Isle in Maine: The Story & Works of Chris Van Dusen* is filled with artwork and information about Van Dusen, whose books include *The Circus Ship*, *Hattie and Hudson*, and the *If I Built series*. He is also the illustrator of the Mercy Watson books by Kate DiCamillo and is known for his colorful and cartoony painted artwork.

The exhibition was designed by Luke Gates-Milardo. He told *The Week Junior* that showcasing Van Dusen's work at the museum made sense because "a lot of his books have been inspired by historic events or the culture and lifestyle of living in Maine."

Chris Van Dusen

While planning the exhibition, Gates-Milardo and his team visited Van Dusen's home studio, where he showed them items like old story drafts, sketches, and scribbles of rhyming verses on scraps of paper. "A bunch of those scraps and sketches made it into our exhibit because we wanted to convey how much effort truly goes into creating something beautiful," Gates-Milardo said. The team re-created the studio at the museum and filled it with items Van Dusen uses and looks at as he works. The exhibition also has large replicas of objects from Van Dusen's books, such as the Circus Ship. Gates-Milardo made it with guidance from the director of the museum's boat-building department.

As visitors leave, they can learn how to draw the Van Dusen character Dee, a dog, and write the author letters that get forwarded to him. "Hopefully they can leave feeling inspired and ready to use their imagination and create something beautiful," Gates-Milardo said.

READER RECOMMENDS

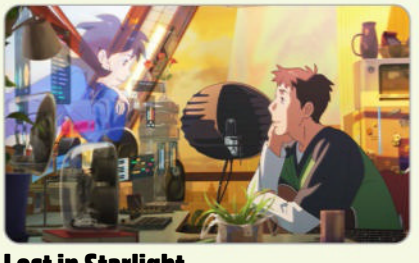
Little Lunch (Netflix, Prime Video, byutv.org)
"This show is based on a book series by Danny Katz. It is a mockumentary (a funny, fake documentary) about elementary school kids Atticus, Debra-Jo, Rory, Melanie, Tamara, and Battie. They tell stories about different things that happened at school. In one episode, Tamara gets mad at Melanie for trying to use the monkey bars. In another episode, their teacher tries to rescue a boy stuck on the playground equipment, but she gets stuck herself! I like this show because it's funny, and I like the adventures the characters have, too. I hope you like this show like I do!" Ava, 9, New Jersey

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

Walking with Dinosaurs
(PBS.org) (PBS App) (BBC One)
This series uses advanced scientific findings and high-tech visual effects to bring dinosaurs to life. Each episode follows paleontologists uncovering how a dinosaur species lived. The featured animals include a speedy T. rex relative and an enormous Lusotitan.

Kids' Choice Awards
(Nickelodeon) June 21 at 8 p.m. ET
Popular singer-songwriter Tyla hosts this annual live event celebrating kids' favorite people and things from movies, TV, music, sports, gaming, and podcasts. Expect celebrity appearances, performances, and slime. Nominees include Gracie Abrams, Shaboozey, and Jordan Chiles.



Lost in Starlight
(Netflix)
Set in 2050 Seoul, South Korea, this new animated film is part of the K-drama genre. It follows aspiring astronaut Nan-young and Jay, a musician. When Nan-young is chosen for a mission to Mars, it tests their relationship. It is available with subtitles or dubbed in English.

COURTESY OF MAINE MARITIME MUSEUM; GETTY IMAGES; ARC ME; BBC STUDIOS; NICKELODEON; NETFLIX; ON LEFT PAGE: DISNEY/PIXAR; GETTY IMAGES; BOOK: COURTESY OF PUBLISHER; NETFLIX; NICKELODEON

LONG DRIVE
In the famous 24 Hours of Le Mans, teams of drivers race to see who can log the most miles on a track in 24 hours.
Mario Kart World

Race and explore in Mario Kart World

Mario Kart World is a new arcade racing game that was recently released. It is one of the first big new games for the Nintendo Switch 2.

The original Mario Kart game debuted on the Super Nintendo console in 1992, and the series has been a massive hit over the years. The games star iconic plumber Mario and his pals zooming around on colorful, chaotic courses.

Mario Kart World takes gamers to places they've never been before: outside the race tracks. It is set in a world with explorable regions that have distinct features, courses, and obstacles. Among the areas are a desert, an ice region, and an aquatic region. All the areas are connected, and the game features a big map that helps you navigate. You can go off-roading during races or in the Free Roam mode and take on various missions and challenges along the way.

There are two major racing modes in the game. In Grand Prix, you compete in four races to win a special cup, such as the Mushroom Cup or the Star Cup. In the Knockout Tour, the goal is to race across a region, stopping at checkpoints along the way. Some of the courses in the game are reimagined versions from past games, while others—including Crown City, Boo Cinema, and Starview Peak—are completely new.

Existing Mario Kart fans will notice some other changes to the game as well. There are new driving techniques, new items to collect and use, and more than 50 playable characters. Some races can have up to 24 participants. You can play the game in split-screen mode with up to four players on the same system or connect with up to eight players in local wireless mode for a wild adventure with friends and family.

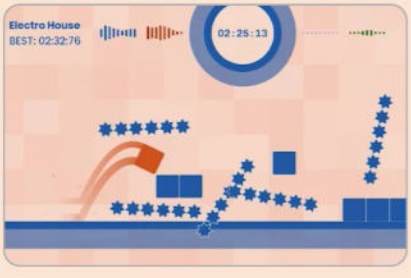
PODCAST OF THE WEEK

THE BIG FIB

Major podcast platforms

On each episode of this long-running show, kids interview two people claiming to be experts on the same topic, such as hippos, puzzles, or berries. One is telling the truth, and the other is pretending. Listeners follow along, ask questions, and try to figure out which is which.

GAME OF THE WEEK



THE IMPOSSIBLE GAME: INFINITE

Apple App Store, Google Play

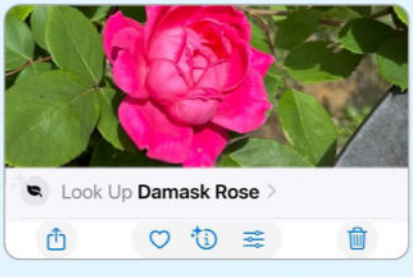
In this musical platform game, you control a square shape that bounces through levels filled with obstacles that each have their own sound. The game becomes an endless rhythm runner, with loops of drums, bass, lead, and vocals mixing to create a new song every time you play.

SECRETS & HACKS

VISUAL LOOK UP

iPhones

If you take a photo of a plant, flower, animal, or landmark with an iPhone, this feature can help you identify what it is. After you snap the image, go to the Photos app, look at the bottom of your screen for an "i," a leaf, or another circled icon with a star on it. Tap it to get more information on the subject.



NINTENDO (2); GEN-Z MEDIA; FLUKE GAMES; APPLE

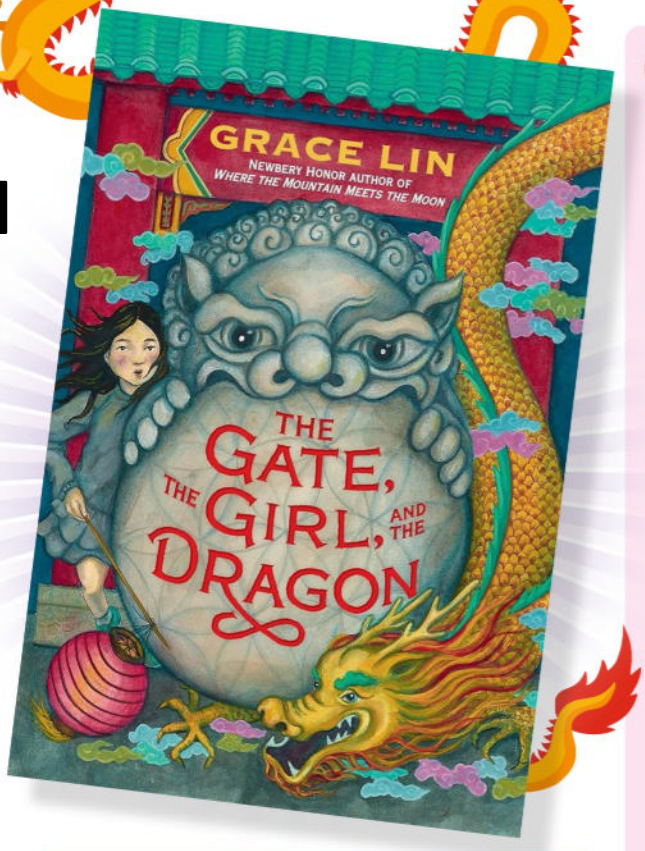
SUMMER OF READING FEATURED PICK

The Gate, the Girl, and the Dragon

By Grace Lin

(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

This vibrantly illustrated story weaves together modern and classic Chinese folklore to create a new magical adventure. Spirits live inside the lion statues that guard the gate to the human world and protect an important object called the Sacred Sphere. Jin, a stone lion cub, thinks being a guardian to humans is boring. He'd rather be playing zuqiu, a game that's similar to soccer. One day, Jin kicks the zuqiu ball, and it knocks the Sacred Sphere off its pedestal, sending it rolling into the human world. Jin chases after it, but he can't catch it. The sphere falls into the hands of a mysterious sculptor who is being manipulated by a sinister dragon. Devastating dust storms and earthquakes occur in the human world, and Jin's homeland begins to wither and die. To get the sphere back, Jin must team up with a dragon who is stuck in the body of a worm, and Lulu, a lonely girl who isn't who she appears to be. Will they be able to recover the sphere and return it to its rightful place before time runs out? This fast-paced novel ties together three story threads to create a satisfying conclusion.



BOOK: COURTESY OF PUBLISHER; AUTHOR: DANIELLE TAIT; GETTY IMAGES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB

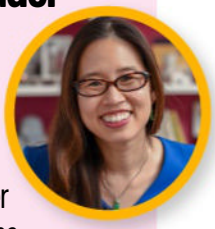
The Gate, the Girl, and the Dragon has an exciting, twisty plot that explores themes of responsibility, kindness, and acceptance. Here are questions to get a conversation going with friends and family who have also read the book.

- **How does Jin become more responsible as the story progresses?**
- **What do you think the game zuqiu symbolizes?**
- **How does the physical appearance of the dragons affect their ability to persuade the other characters?**
- **What are the different ways in which Jin and Lulu want their fathers to see them?**
- **Did you guess the purpose behind the sculptor's work?**
- **If a statue were to represent your spirit, what mythical figure or animal would you choose?**

2025 Summer of Reading

Our list of "The 50 Books Kids Love Most," details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes, and more can be found at **kids.theweekjunior.com/summerofreading**.

Ask the Author Ambassador



In 2010, Grace Lin won a Newbery Honor for *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. *The Week Junior* spoke to her about her latest book, *The Gate, the Girl, and the Dragon.*

Where did you get the idea for your new book?

I collected seeds of ideas for this story for many years. When my family and I were traveling in Shanghai, China, I saw an unusual golden dragon structure in the middle of a freeway. Another time, when we were in Boston, Massachusetts, in Chinatown, I noticed a lion statue holding a ball. From these seeds, my imagination grew!

What do you hope kids take from the story?

I hope kids remember that a hero isn't about having the strongest muscles. A hero is someone who tries their best.

Did you enjoy writing and drawing as a child?

Yes, and in seventh grade, I realized I could make a living doing what I love. My English teacher suggested I enter a national contest that involved writing and illustrating a book. I won fourth place and received $1,000.

Which book character would you want as a best friend?

Anne from *Anne of Green Gables*.

Did you enjoy Chinese folktales growing up?

Not at all, but I read them anyway. I thought Chinese folktales were boring because they were plainly written! Now they're the foundation for my most popular books. Stories that you don't enjoy reading now might become important to you later.

Favorite summer snack?

Homegrown Chinese cucumbers with watermelon and feta cheese.

WOW! A Pennsylvania man, Zachariah Swope, holds the record for having seen the most films—777—in a theater in one year.

Expand your film horizons

Be an expert movie watcher with these helpful tips.

With so many movies available to see, it can be difficult to decide which ones to watch. When you do settle in for a film, it can also be challenging to stay focused on the screen if you're getting interrupted by distractions. But there are ways you can enjoy movies more. Here's how to get started.

Check out reviews

To select a film, start by asking friends or family for their recommendations. Another way to find movies to watch is to read reviews from professional film critics and movie audiences, such as those on the website Rotten Tomatoes (rottentomatoes.com). If you're worried that a movie might be too scary or mature for you, check out Common Sense Media (commonsensemedia.org), where you can sort movie suggestions by age range and read young people's reviews under the tab "Kids Say."

Invite a friend to a movie!

Find more of what you like

Make a list of movies you've seen. You can give each film your own rating, from zero (the worst score) to 100 (the best). Look back on your list to see if you notice any patterns. Maybe you really like comedies, or you might prefer dramas. If you found that you really enjoyed a particular movie, you can look up the director or actors online and see what other movies they've made.

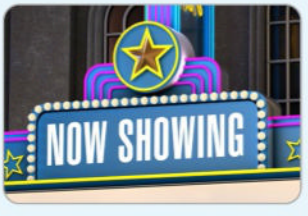
Try a new genre

Look over your list to see what kinds of movies you haven't tried yet. That could be an animated short film like *For the Birds*, a mockumentary like *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On*, an action movie like *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*, or a biographical movie based on real people, such as *Hidden Figures*. You could also find movies to watch on the Library of Congress website (loc.gov), where you can find out about the National Film Registry. The registry accepts nominations online and selects 25 films per year that show the range and diversity of American film heritage.

Create a theater experience

Movie theaters are dark and quiet so you can focus on one thing—the movie. When you watch a film at home, try to mimic this environment as best you can. Dim the lights, and put distracting devices away. Watching a movie with friends or family can make it especially enjoyable because you can share the experience—plus snacks!—and discuss the movie together afterward.

3 classic snacks



How did these popular movie-theater concessions come about?

Popcorn **Theater owners installed popcorn poppers during the Great Depression, a period of high unemployment in the 1930s. Popcorn was an affordable snack, and sales of it helped save their businesses.**

Pickles **The tradition of selling pickles in movie theaters in Texas may have started with German immigrants in the 1950s. It's still a popular theater treat today.**

Reese's Pieces **The candy's appearance in the 1982 movie E.T., which depicted the fictional alien following a path of Reese's Pieces, increased its popularity.**

Decorate no-bake cookies with bug designs

Ingredients

- Round store-bought cookies (such as Nilla Wafers or shortbread)
- Cookie icing in assorted colors (red, yellow, and black)
- Black nonpareils
- Candy eyes

Instructions

Get ready to decorate by setting up your work area. First, remove the cookies from the package. (The smoother the cookie, the easier it will be to work with, which is why we suggest wafers or shortbread.) Then place individual cookies on a tray or baking sheet to catch icing drips as you work. You can find cookie icing at grocery stores, craft stores, or online.

To make the ladybugs

1. Outline the top of the cookies with a red circle and fill in with the red icing.
2. Let set for a few minutes. Use the black cookie icing to fill in the head on each ladybug. Then draw one black stripe down the center of each cookie.
3. Create the spots by placing the black nonpareils on the cookies. Give each bug two candy eyes.

To make the bees

1. Outline the top of the cookies with a yellow circle and fill in the surface with the yellow icing.
2. Allow to set for a few minutes. Use the black cookie icing to create the head on each bee. Then draw black stripes across each cookie and add an inverted triangle "stinger" at the bottom.
3. Give each bee two candy eyes.

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK: HELP PROTECT MARINE LIFE

If you're going to a beach this summer, keep the environment and wildlife in mind. Last fall, teen volunteers from Punahou High School in Oahu, Hawaii, collected 1,100 pounds of trash from a local beach in a single day. Before you go home at the end of the day, take a look around to make sure you aren't accidentally leaving behind food wrappers or other trash. It can end up in the ocean and harm marine life. Other ways to help: If you come across crabs or turtles, watch from a distance without disturbing them. Keep dogs on leashes to protect beach-nesting birds, and stay away from any eggs you find.

ERICA CLARK FOR STONE KITCHEN CREATIVE; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Word search

Can you find all these words associated with horses? They are hidden horizontally, vertically, or diagonally and can be forward or backward. When you're done, read the remaining letters to get a bonus message.

BREECHES
BRIDLE
BRONCO
COLT
CORRAL
EQUESTRIAN
FILLY
FLANK
FOAL
GALLOP
GIDDYUP
GIRTH
HAY
HOOVES
HORSESHOES
MANE
MARE
NEIGH
OATS
PALOMINO
PONY
REINS
RIDE
SADDLE
SIRE
STABLE
STALLION
STIRRUPS
TAIL
TROT
WHINNY
WHOA

OFF SIDES

Make three different five-letter words by using the letters given to fill in the blanks.

C E K L S W

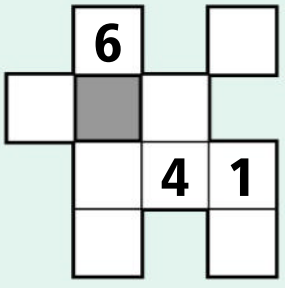
_ H A L _

_ H A L _

_ H A L _

Out of order

The numbers 1 to 9 can fit, one per square, so that no two consecutive numbers are in squares that touch in any way, even at a corner. Use the numbers already given to figure out where the rest of the numbers go.



FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks in each sentence with two words that are the same except for the removed first letter, like BOWL and OWL. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

1. These new shoes _ _ _ _ _ my toes because they're at least an _ _ _ _ too short!
2. Every time that cat _ _ _ _ _ _ our tree, she gets stuck on one of the highest _ _ _ _ _ and has to be carried back down.
3. My father decided to start _ _ _ _ _ _ _ again, after years of _ _ _ _ _ _ a big, thick beard.

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

Spot the difference

These two pictures of a T. rex skeleton appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY

Fill in the blanks hint: The first word in sentence 3 begins with an S.

Fast franks at the bun-anza

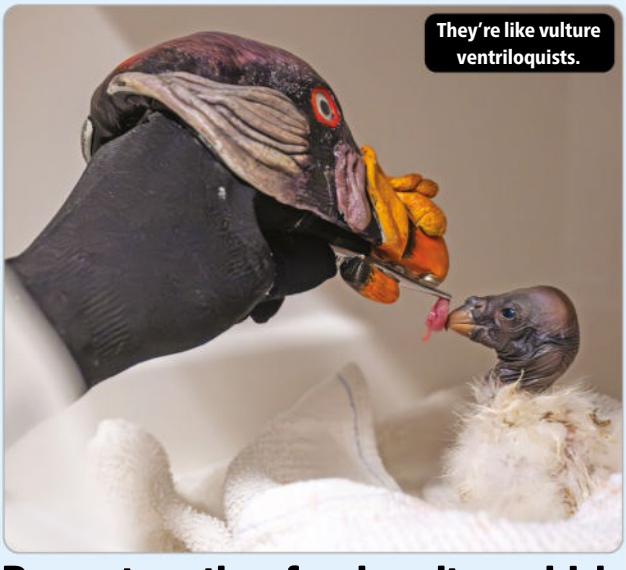
Hot dog hot rods on the go

Before the world-famous Indianapolis 500 car race, the Oscar Mayer meat company held its very own motorsports event. At the first-ever Wienie 500, six hot-dog-shaped vehicles known as Wienermobiles zoomed around the track at up to 60 miles per hour. About 80,000 spectators cheered with relish until the wheeled wiener known as Slaw Dog reached the finish line first by about half a bun's length. A participant said, "You are standing in a moment of hot dog history."

"Outta my whey!"

Daring race for a dairy product

Each year, hundreds of people gather on top of a steep hill to try to catch a wheel of cheese. The Cheese Rolling contest has been held since 1826 in England, where competitors run after a wheel of Double Gloucester cheese as it rolls downhill at up to 70 miles per hour. This year, Ava Sender Logan won the women's race and German YouTube star Tom Kopke won the men's event for the second time in a row, with each claiming a seven-pound cheese as their prize. "I risked my life for this," Kopke said. "It's my cheese."


They're like vulture ventriloquists.

Puppet mother feeds vulture chick

The Bronx Zoo in New York is using a puppet to raise a king vulture chick. Hatched in February, the baby bird is the first of its kind at the zoo since the 1990s. Since vulture parents don't always take good care of their chicks, zookeepers are feeding the youngster. They didn't want it to form a strong attachment to a human, so the zoo made a life-like vulture puppet to pose as its mother. A keeper hides inside a costume and feeds the chick raw meat with a pair of tweezers in the puppet's beak.

Make a home in a wind turbine

How would you like to live at a wind farm? Wind turbines turn air into energy using propeller-like blades attached to a boxy structure called a nacelle. Measuring about 33 feet long and 10 feet high, the nacelles are big enough to be classified as homes, so Dutch designers decided to create living spaces inside them. Thousands of turbine homes are now available, accessed by an elevator that travels 300 feet up from the turbine's base—and the company says the views are wonderful. Is this the truth, or is the story overblown?*

*Fake! There are no plans yet for people to live in wind turbines. Designers have created one model home from a nacelle that was removed from an old turbine, however, as part of an effort to reuse turbines that have worn out.

GETTY IMAGES (5); AP; TERRIA CLAY; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3)

Your turn

Editor's note

Movie night is a favorite activity in my family, so I was happy to see the story on expanding your film horizons in this week's How To section (p24). The article offers great advice on choosing films to watch, trying new genres you might not have thought of, and making movie-watching more fun. I have one more suggestion, inspired by our story about this year's Tony Awards (p3): Look for Broadway shows you can watch from home. Many productions—including *Hamilton*, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary, and *Good Night, and Good Luck*, which earned five Tony nominations this year—can be found on streaming services or on demand. It's amazing to see a theater performance in person, but it's also wonderful to view it from home and discuss it with family and friends. If you watch something you love, send us a submission for our Reader Recommends column! See the details on page 21.

Andrea Barbalich
Editorial Director

CHARITY OF THE WEEK

First Book

This organization's goal is to ensure that all children have access to a supportive reading environment. It researches the needs of students and educators and supplies them with books, educational materials, and more. The group helps about 6.5 million pupils a year and has provided more than 250 million books to children since its founding in 1992. Find out more at firstbook.org.

Aisha, 9, California

Helping with words and bands

"My mom, who is a lawyer and an engineer, teaches me about different laws, and that inspired me to write my own book, *What Is the Law?* I realized that laws are similar to rules at school and they are fascinating to explore. Besides writing, I have my own business called Bands and Beads by Aisha. I make and sell colorful loom bands and teach other kids how to create them too, so they can earn money and start saving. I donate 20% of what I earn to Bay Area Older Adults because I love my grandparents and want to help other older people as well."

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Did you hear about the guy who invented Lifesavers?

They say he made a mint.

SUMMER OF READING

Enter to win books!

This is the second issue of our Summer of Reading campaign! We hope you enjoy our interview with Author Ambassador Grace Lin and a review of her new book, *The Gate, the Girl, and the Dragon* (p23). Our reading challenge continues! Once you've read any three books, go to tinyurl.com/TWJUS-ReadingChallenge2025 with an adult to enter our sweepstakes. Five kids will win! All winners will be drawn at random. The deadline to enter is August 8. For our list of "The 50 Books Kids Love Most," go to kids.theweekjunior.com/summerofreading.

THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

COLD PLUNGE

Many readers took the ice bucket challenge in support of Mental Health Awareness Month in May. Whenever you want to share a photo, have an adult email it to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's happening in the photo.

"I took the ice bucket challenge because it's important to increase people's understanding of mental health issues." Lilly, 11, Missouri

"I participated in the ice bucket challenge with support from my siblings." Harry, 10, Connecticut

"The ice bucket challenge gave me a burst of energy, just like when *The Week Junior* arrives in our mailbox!" Rosie, 11, Wisconsin

Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Ms. Gardea**

School: **Mesita Elementary School**

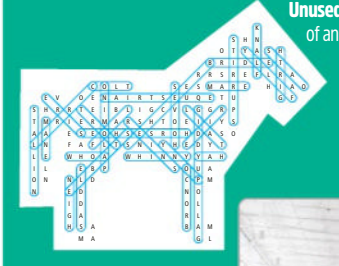
"Ms. Gardea is an amazing teacher because she makes learning so much fun! She has a great sense of humor and always has the class laughing as we learn. She's also very talented because she teaches our bilingual class in both Spanish and English! The projects she leads us in are also very interesting. She even helped us publish a book of classroom poetry. She is the best teacher ever!"

Evelyn, 10, Texas

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

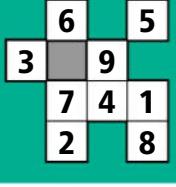
Puzzle answers (from page 26)



Unused letters: Horses have the biggest eyes of any land mammal.

Off sides
chalk
shall
whale

Fill in the blanks
1. pinch, inch
2. climbs, limbs
3. shaving, having



Quiz answers (from page 30) **1** b) Homewood **2** The Communiverse **3** False. They came from Asia. **4** Gondola **5** c) South Korea **6** False. He set a world record for the most backflips. **7** FaceAge **8** b) 1992 **9** a) The Bandits **10** False. It is her third. **11** c) Sacred Sphere **12** Sunny and Gizmo **13** a) Maine **14** True **15** Wienie 500

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your first name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Residents of which Alabama city worked together to help save spotted salamanders?

a) Huntsville

b) Homewood

c) Hartselle

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 In the animated film Elio, the main character is beamed to an interplanetary organization called what?

3 True or false? A recent study found that ancestors of T. rex came to North America from Africa.

True ☐ False ☐

4 What is the control car of a blimp called?

5 Maybe Happy Ending is the first musical from which country to win a Tony Award?

a) China b) Japan c) South Korea

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 True or false? American gymnast Frederick Richard recently set a new world record for doing the most cartwheels in 24 hours.

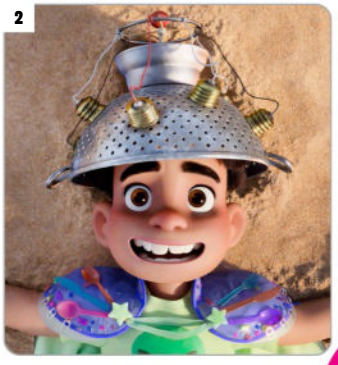
True ☐ False ☐

7 What is the name of the AI program created to assess a patient's age and health using a photo of their face?

8 In what year was the original Mario Kart game released by Nintendo?

a) 1982 b) 1992 c) 2002

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐



2

1

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

15

12

8

9 Which softball team won the first game in AUSL history?

a) The Bandits

b) The Talons

c) The Volts

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 True or false? Women is violinist Esther Abrami's first studio album.

True ☐ False ☐

11 In the book The Gate, the Girl, and the Dragon, what is the object guarded by spirits living in lion statues?

a) Ancient Amulet

b) Diamond Dragon

c) Sacred Sphere

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 What are the names of the eaglets that recently took flight from a nest in Big Bear, California?

13 A museum exhibit dedicated to children's book author and illustrator Chris Van Dusen is being held in which US state?

a) Maine

b) Massachusetts

c) Michigan

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

14 True or false? Worldwide, the number of areas where nature is legally protected is at a record high.

True ☐ False ☐

15 What was the name of the hot-dog-themed vehicle race held before the Indianapolis 500?

THE WEEK Junior

Editorial director: Andrea Barbalich
Executive editor: Mindy Walker
Senior editors: Joey Bartolomeo, Gail O'Connor, Alisa Partlan, Jennifer Li Shotz
Associate editor: Brielle Diskin
Assistant editor: Asha Sridhar
Senior writer: Brandon Wiggins
Staff writer: Felissa Allard
Senior research editor: Douglas Grant
Creative director: Dean Abatemarco
Production director: Paul Kramer
Senior art director: Victoria Beall

Photo editor: Nataki Hewling
Contributors: Stephanie Abramson, Lily Alt, Karen Cicero, Erica Clark, Stacy Cousino, Susie Dent, Truman Devitt, Dave Howard, Joy Howard, Jodi Levine, Puzzability, Bari Nan Cohen Rothchild, Melisa Russo, Jordan Zakarin
Managing director, news: Richard Campbell
Brand director, news: Harry Haydon
VP, marketing: Chris Rushe
Senior director, consumer marketing: Leslie Guarnieri
Head of growth marketing: Colleen Shire Ho
Digital marketing director: Katie Hay
Publisher: Stevie Lee (*stevie.lee@futurenet.com*)
Account director: Mary Gallagher (*mary.gallagher@futurenet.com*)
US manufacturing and distribution manager: Lori Crook
Operations manager: Cassandra Mondonedo

Reader submissions: *hello@theweekjunior.com*
Customer service: *TWJcustserv@cdsfulfillment.com*
New subscriptions: TheWeekJunior.com
©2025. All rights reserved. *The Week* and *The Week Junior* are registered trademarks. Neither the whole of this publication nor any part of it may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without the written permission of the publishers.
The Week Junior (ISSN 2689-9027) is published weekly, except January 3, January 10, July 11, and September 12. *The Week Junior* is published by Future US LLC, 130 West 42nd Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTERS: Send change of address to *The Week Junior,* PO Box 37595, Boone, IA 50037-7595.

FUTURE
Connectors. Creators. Experience Makers.

Future plc is a public company quoted on the London Stock Exchange (symbol: FUTR)
www.futureplc.com

Chief Executive Officer **Kevin Li Ying**
Non-Executive Chairman **Richard Huntingford**
Chief Financial Officer **Sharjeel Suleman**
Tel +44 (0)1225 442 244

DISNEY/PIXAR; GETTY IMAGES (3); NINTENDO

Keep kids reading all summer long!

The Week Junior invites our readers to jump into a summer of super adventures through our Summer of Reading challenge.

Reading can take kids anywhere they can think of. They can be the hero of a thousand stories, this summer and beyond.

Bring along a friend, create a summer book club, or give a gift of *The Week Junior* and treat another child to a summer of reading adventures.

Makes a great gift!

THE WEEK Junior
THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
SUSPENSE IN THE SKY
Scientists track an asteroid's path through space p14
DID YOU KNOW?
The space rock is more than 4 billion years old.
It is currently about 30 million miles away from Earth.
Experts say it has a very low chance of hitting our planet.

To order a 25 weekly issue subscription of *The Week Junior* and save 66%, visit theweekjunior.com/smartfun

ADVERTISEMENT

COSMO

The amazing smartwatch made for kids!

FEATURING THE WEEK Junior

COSMO is the perfect first phone that kids love and parents trust! It's fun, connection, and safety all in one. Now featuring *The Week Junior* app!

Learn more at www.cosmotogether.com/the-week-junior

THE WEEK JUNIOR EXCLUSIVE! Save 25% with code TWJ25